

Welcome to Eastern Region

Employment/Employer News - Eastern Region

.... from Flaming Gorge to Navajo Mountain

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Regional Councils in Eastern Region Are Under New Leadership As Of July 1st

Beginning July 1st both of the Regional Councils in Eastern Region – Uintah Basin and Southeast – have new chairpersons.

Bill Deal is the new chair for the Southeast Regional Council which includes Carbon, Emery, Grand, and San Juan Counties. Bill is the Mill Manager for International Uranium Corporation in Blanding. He has been on the Council since the Department of Workforce Services and the Council was



Bill Deal, far right, and Sharon Wilkins, meet with staff from Rep. Chris Cannon's Washington DC Office in March 1999. Bill and Sharon were attending the annual conference of the National Association of Workforce Boards. Bob Gilbert, far left, is coordinator of the Uintah Basin Regional Council.

organized in 1997. Bill is replacing Bonnie Cook who has been serving for the past two years.

Sharon Wilkins will be the new chair for the Uintah Basin Regional Council. Sharon is the Human Resources and Administrative Manager for S F Phosphates in Vernal, and has been on the Council for two years, and prior to that, served for several years as chair of the Vernal Job Service Employer Council. Sharon will be taking the place of Dana O'Crowley.

Number of Job Orders Growing for Latest Fiscal Year in Eastern Region

When an employer contacts a local Department of Workforce Services (DWS) office and requests assistance in hiring a new employee, a job order has been placed. DWS labor economists track the numbers of job orders to assess the strength of local economies.

	Job Orders 7-1-97 to 3-30-98	Job Orders 7-1-98 to 6-30-99	% Increase
Blanding	257	340	32%
Castle Dale	225	308	37%
Moab	752	1014	35%
Monticello	NA	188	NA
Price	708	950	34%
Roosevelt	547	790	44%
Vernal	899	1159	29%

Shown above is some data on job orders that compares the first nine of months of the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1997 with the twelve-month period that ended on June 30, 1999. The number of job orders shows significant increases over the first year. "We are very enthused about the increased number of job orders", said Delena Fish, manager of the Castle Dale DWS Office. "It's great for our local economy when jobs are available, and our office enjoys serving employers."

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E-1 Program Going Well With Eastern Region Employers

Area employers are partnering with DWS to place DWS customers into employment. Under the program, a DWS client is placed on the job as a new employee. Since many of these clients are just returning to the workforce, extra supervision may be required. To compensate the employer for this extra effort, DWS pays the employer a monthly amount.

Upon completion of a day-long supervisory training course, the employer can have a DWS client placed on the job as a regular employee. The employer is then paid \$500 for every month that the client is on the job, up to six months. If the client is employed there for a full year, the employer receives an additional \$1000. In order to qualify for the program, a client must have received public assistance for 12 of the previous 24 months..

Roosevelt, Price, and Moab all have E-1 clients placed with employers. Some participating employers include Cascade Mountain Resources, Holiday Inn (Price), Uintah Basin Medical Center, Ute Tribe Head Start, Stewart's Cedarcrest Care Center, Archway Inn, Grand County Housing Authority, and City Market.



Kristen Wilcox, center, has been working at Little Imaginations Day Care Center in Roosevelt, as part of the E-1 program.

Interesting Data: At the end of May '99, the Eastern Region had 135 households receiving cash welfare assistance that will reach the 36-month time limit at the end of December. Approximately 1300 households were receiving cash welfare assistance in January 97, when the 36-month limit became law.

Vernal Manufacturing Business Partners With DWS in Selecting and Training Employees

Udell's Cabinets, in business since 1975, is a thriving small business located on the eastern side of Vernal in Uintah County. Udell's builds residential and commercial cabinets, and markets them to a dealer network in Utah and Colorado. In the last few years, they have seen their annual sales go from \$500,000 to over \$2 million.

Presently, the operation has two shifts and employs 35 people. "Since only a third of our business comes from the Basin, we are not affected so much by the ups and downs of the oil industry," says Dave Birch, manager of Udell's.



Connie Perry, Vernal DWS Employment Counselor, talks with Dave Birch, manager of Udell's Cabinets.

Dave has worked with his employer representative, Connie Perry, formerly Job Service and now the Department of Workforce Services, for many years. During that time, Udell's has partnered with DWS in utilizing on-the-job training, where DWS pays up to half of the employee's wage during the first few months of training.

"The program has worked well for Udell's", says Dave, and adds that "Connie knows the kind of employees we want and refers very good candidates for us to consider."

If you are interested in talking with Udell's Cabinets, please call 435-789-5134.

Eastern Region Counties: Facts and Figures

Daggett County

Square Miles	699
Population ('98)	713
Labor Force ('98)	404 jobs
Driving Miles from S.C.	160 miles

Duchesne County

Square Miles	3,233
Population ('98)	14,376
Labor Force ('98)	5,936 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	145 miles

Uintah County

Square Miles	4,479
Population ('98)	24,436
Labor Force ('98)	10,460 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	175 miles

Carbon County

Square Miles	1,479
Population ('98)	21,547
Labor Force ('98)	9,610 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	119 miles

Emery County

Square Miles	4,449
Population ('98)	10,939
Labor Force ('98)	4,094 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	140 miles

Grand County

Square Miles	3,689
Population ('98)	8,887
Labor Force ('98)	5,062 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	238 miles

San Juan County

Square Miles	7,725
Population ('98)	13,457
Labor Force ('98)	4,766 jobs
Highway Miles from S.C.	316 miles

Eastern Region

Employment Center ★
Satellite Office *



Note: Square miles in the State of Utah total 82,073. Of that total, 25,753 square miles, or 32% is in the Eastern Region.

Unemployment Rates For Utah and the Eastern Region

	June 1999	June 1998
State of Utah	3.3%	3.9%
San Juan County	6.8%	8.6%
Grand County	5.4%	7.4%
Emery County	5.4%	8.8%
Carbon County	6.3%	6.7%
Duchesne County	8.4%	7.4%
Uintah County	6.2%	6.6%
Daggett County	3.8%	4.7%

A listing of Eastern Region employment centers and office managers is shown below:

Blanding	Barbara Tate	678-1400
Moab	Sheryl Nisely	381-4700
Monticello	Shauna Vigil	587-2016
Castle Dale	Delena Fish	259-3700
Price	Roger Sparks	636-2300
Roosevelt	Toni Ansel	722-6500
Vernal	Vint DeGraw	781-4100

Households on Temporary Welfare Assistance (TANF) Begins to Level Off, Increase

As the chart below shows, the number of households receiving cash welfare in the Eastern Region has declined over the past three and a half years. Significantly, however, the number of caseloads in some communities has begun to increase in the most recent months. Roosevelt and Vernal, two communities most affected by oil prices, experienced double digit unemployment in the first quarter of 1999. Price and Castle Dale have shown a steady decline in numbers of cases receiving cash welfare assistance, though in recent months, Castle Dale's cases have remained nearly unchanged. The number of cases in Moab has remained relatively constant, with small increases in the fall and winter months, as the tourist economy slows which results in less opportunity for work.

